JUNE 2021

News

Librarians unite for #1Lib1Ref

Librarians and library professionals across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand added 1735 new citations to Wikipedia in just three weeks.

For the first time, Wikimedia Australia partnered with Wikmedia Aotearoa New Zealand on a regional campaign, co-hosting six drop-in sessions over the three weeks of the campaign from 15 May until 6 June 2021.

Established in 2016, #1Lib1Ref imagines a world where every librarian or library professional adds just one citation to Wikipedia. It's now run twice per year.

Around 50 librarians who attended the online sessions (as well a surprise drop-in flamenco guitar player and a child who showed us his toys) were trained in the basics of Wikipedia and how to add a citation. A huge thanks to Siobhan Leachman, Ann Reynolds, Kerry Raymond and Caddie Brain for facilitating these sessions and Mike Dickison for his online LIANZA Webinar.

Additional live and online events were also held at the University of Melbourne, Yarra Plenty Regional Library, Te Papa, University of Newcastle Library, Charles Sturt University

Library in Wagga Wagga and the State Library of Queensland. Congratulations to the staff for their work.

You can see the final results here, the efforts of the Yarra Plenty Regional Library and State Library of Queensland here.

Wikidata and R: a perfect pair

R is great, and a good match for Wikidata stuff.

The open source programming language 'R' is a statistical computing environment, which is widely used for data manipulation, analysis and visualisation. It's also a great match for Wikidata, the massive database of everything.

Now there's a new WikidataR package that can enable and enhance a range of workflows used in combination with the exisiting capabilities of R and other packages to acquire, process and link data. It was developed by Wikimedia Australia President Alex Lum and Thomas Shafee, thanks to a WikiCite grant.

Read about the package on the DIFF blog.

Wikimania is open for submissions!

Wikimania is back for 2021, celebrating 20 years of Wikipedia looking at its past, present and future! And for the first time it is a completely virtual event, so you can attend from wherever you may be.

Submissions for presenting are now open. Submissions can be presented live, pre-recorded and presented during a live session, or made available on demand.
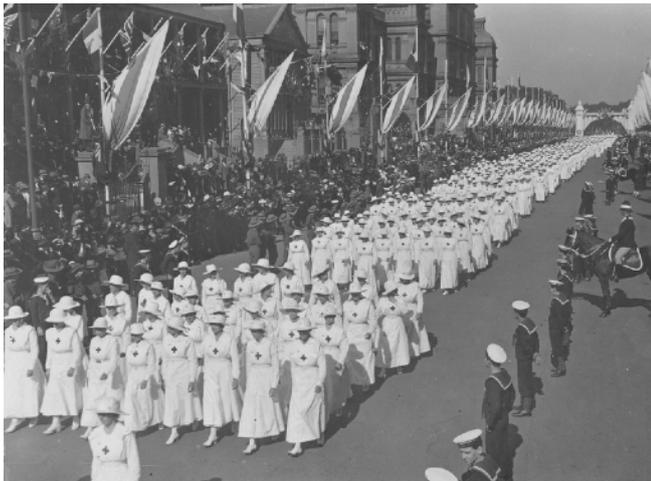
Submissions close 18 June and can be made here.

Picture this!

Sydney-siders masked up and dug deep into the City of Sydney Archives during the recent 'Picture This' edit-a-thon at Darling Square Library.

Guided by City Historians Dr Lisa Murray and Laila Ellmoos and supported by

Wikipedia editors Toby Hudson and Ann Reynolds, participants learnt to upload public domain images to Wikimedia Commons, then add them to Wikipedia pages on everything from Sydney mayors to Sydney streetscapes.

The hybrid event run by the City of Sydney featured editors in person at the library as well as remote participants via video link. Despite the challenge of learning multiple platforms, the 20 or so participants added 43 images to Wikimedia Commons and edited 250 articles on the day.

Nurses on parade, Victory Day celebrations, Sydney 1919, City of Sydney archives

Coming up

June Community meeting

Wikimedia Australia's next open community meeting is on again this Wednesday 9 June. It's an opportunity to present what you've been working on, seek some advice and have a chat about all things Wikimedia! Just add your name, update or presentation to the agenda here. The meet-up starts at 7pm AEST online here.

July will be a themed community meeting and there will be no community meeting in August due to overlap with Wikimania on the 13 - 17 August.

Two weeks to go! Take a shot at Wiki Loves Earth

You've got just two more weeks to enter Wiki Loves Earth for 2021! Enter your photos from any natural heritage sites from around Australia – nature reserves, landscape conservation areas, national parks or protection areas for use across Wikimedia Foundation projects. You can submit

multiple entries but they must be your own work.

Ten Australian photos will be selected for submission into the international competition in August as well as each receiving a $100 prize. To be eligible for a prize, make sure you identify yourself and the protected area where you took the photo.

Entries close on Sunday 13 June.

Swimming with Seal, Jervis Bay Marine Park, Joseph Skinner

Australian Women in Religion

The Australian Women in Religion Project is back for its next online edit-a-thon, on this Wednesday 9 June from 9am - 11am.

The edit-a-thon from the University of Divinity in Melbourne is part of a global project called '1000 Women in Religion', coordinated by the Women's Caucus of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature. The aim is to add 1000 biographies of "religious, spiritual and wisdom women" to Wikipedia.

Coordinated by Kerrie Burn, librarian at the University of Divinity's Mannix Library, the Australian arm of the project aims to create and edit 100 biographies about Australian women in religion by the end of 2021.

"One of the difficulties in creating Wikipedia articles for women is that there are fewer sources of information," organiser Kerrie Burn says. It hasn't held them back though. So far, the small team of around four regular contributors have created 54 entries, about one per week.

Register for the edit-a-thon here. You can also read a recent write-up about the project here.

First Nations Edit-a-thon this NAIDOC week

This NAIDOC week, the Redfern Community Centre will host a First Nations edit-a-thon focused on improving articles of importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities on Wikipedia.

It will be led by Kirsten Thorpe, Nathan "Mudyi" Sentance, with support from Wikipedians Toby Hudson and Caddie Brain. Kirsten's professional and research interests relate to Indigenous self-determination in libraries and archives. Nathan works to ensure that the cultural and historical narratives conveyed by memory institutions are being told and controlled by First Nations people. With their guidance, participants will learn to edit Wikipedia and work at growing First Nations content and stories. On 10 July from 11am - 2pm. Register here.

City of Sydney Archives/Patricia Baillie Collection

June loud and proud!

Wiki Loves Pride is back this June to expand and improve LGBT-related content across all Wikimedia projects, in all languages. You can participate by improving Wikipedia's coverage of LGBT-related content. More information and content suggestions are here.

Wikimedia Australia updates

Join the Wikimedia Australia committee

Help guide the future of Wikimedia projects in Australia by joining the Wikimedia Australia governing committee. It oversees the support of training activities, events and partnerships across Australia. Committee members serve a 12 month term.

The AGM has been scheduled for 8 August, with nominations opening for one week from 24 July 2021. For more information contact Wikimedia Australia President Alex Lum.

Apply for Funding

Dreaming of a project, edit-a-thon or doing something experimental with Wikipedia or other Wikimedia platforms? Apply for a Wikimedia Australia community grant! Each year we offer small grants to individuals or community organisations to do cool things. Got ideas or questions? Let's chat.

Feature tool

Five stars for the Prejury Tool

Keen to help out with Wiki Loves Earth this year? Take a first look at this year's incredible entries and help narrow down the top shots for judging by using the "Prejury Tool". Just click through the images rating each image out of five stars.

The tool was developed in Germany to help determine which set of images the judges will select their winning entries from. Try it here.

Global news

Wikimedia Foundation Board election

The 2021 Board of Trustees elections will be held between 4 - 17 August 2021. Members of the Wikimedia community have the opportunity to elect four candidates to a three-year term. The call for candidates is scheduled to open on 9 June 2021.There is also a call for election volunteers here to support the board elections.

Movement Strategy implementation

The Wikimedia Movement Strategy has now moved into the implementation stage, that runs until 2030. You can explore a summary list of the initiatives underway here.

Universal Code of Conduct Discussions

Round-table discussions about the Universal Code of Conduct are continuing, with the next one on 12 June at 3pm AEST. The sessions run for an hour, and will include a brief introduction followed by open discussion about the key enforcement questions. Full details are here.

Stay in touch

If you have any content you'd like us to feature in the next newsletter, please get in touch at: contact@wikimedia.org.au. You can also follow us on our website, Twitter and Facebook.